should be undertaken immediately, Karnataka Electricity Board connections are to be expedited for phase 1 water supply schemes, NGOs need to be oriented on the latrine technologies and their costs for effective marketing, promotional literature needs to be produced and made available to them. Designs and specifications are required to be formulated for single pit latrines, steps need to be taken to ensure availability of pans, demonstration latrines are to be constructed at gram panchayat offices or other suitable places and concurrent evaluation should be organised on latrine usage and other important aspects. The Team also suggested better utilisation of funds to complete the project in time.

Encroachments in Government colonies

356. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any action to detect the persons responsible for encroachments like taxi stands, shops and religious structures in Government colonies in Delhi/New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATARAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Taxi Stands : 4 nos.

Shops : 406 nos.

Religious structures : 56 nos.

(c) Cases have been reported to local bodies, Directorate of Estates and police for removal of encroachments. Legal action under Unauthorised Premises Eviction Act is being taken against the encroachers. Help of special Task force constituted by Delhi Government is also being taken in this regard.

Building Collapse at Dadar Railway Station

357. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:
SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY :
SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a parcel depot building at platform No. 6 of Dadar Railway station in Mumbai had collapsed on October 21,1997;

(b) if so, the causes of such collapse;

(c) the number of persons killed and injured as a result thereof ;

(d) the compensation given to the victims;

(e) whether the said building was declared unsafe;

(f) whether any responsibility has been fixed for poor maintenance of the said building;

(g) if so, the details thereof ; and

(h) the action taken against the persons held responsible ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes,Sir.

(b) Prima facie it is poor design and failure of the Senior Sectional Engineer to maintain the structure. Commissioner of Railway Safety,Mumbai Circle is holding a Statutory inquiry and he has engaged an expert to help him in arriving at the cause of this incident. The report is awaited.

(c) Eleven persons died and 81 were injured.

(d) An exgratia Payment of Rs. 50,000/- each to the next of kin of deseased; Rs.10,000/- each to those injured and Rs.500 each those suffered minor injuries were paid by the Railways.

(e) No,Sir.

(f) to (h) The Senior Sectional Engineer and Junior Engineer in charge for the maintenance have been placed under suspension. Responsibility could be fixed after receipt of the Enquiry Report.

Production of Wagons

358. SHRI CHANDRABHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether only 5 per cent of the total requirement of wagons for Railways is being placed through the wagons India Limited;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the conversion charges which the industry got were only 15 per cent of the total price of a wagon and 85 per cent was the cost of the material supplied by the Railways;

(d) whether the Railways supplied steel and other inputs free of cost to other suppliers of wagons by revising the terms of contract; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) No,Sir. Price which the industry gets is presently about 45% of total cost of wagons.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Setting up of FM Radio Station and HPTV Transmitter at Junagarh

359. SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA
SHRI SANAT MEHTA:
SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has been taken on the request of the government of Gujarat about setting up of an FM Radio station and a HPTV transmitter at Junagarh so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and how long it will take for the government to come to a decision in the interest of vast area of Saurastra region of the State;

(c) the decision of Government of India about inclusion of this proposal in the next plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to set up a Relay centre with 5 Kw FM Transmitter, Playback Facilities and a High power TV Transmitter in place of the existing Low power TV Transmitter at Junagarh during 9th plan period. However, implementation of the proposal will depend upon availability of adequate furds, other infrasctructural facilities and relative priorities.

Judicial Commission on Railway Safety

360. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS:
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to appoint a Judicial Commission to go into all aspects of railway safety and to make suitable recommendations;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) Whether the railway safety aspect is at stake since the past few months ; and

(d) if so, the steps the Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The following safety measures have been taken by Railways for further improvement in safety of trains :

1. Priority execution of track circuiting on all the trunk route and main line stations.

2. Change in signalling circuitry to prevent slot being given till starter and advance starter signal for the preceding train have been put back to on position.

3. The track structure has been strengthened. The rails have been converted into long welded rail panels by welding and removing fishplates.

4. The Communication facility between station staff driver and guard of running trains will be provided.

5. For monitoring of the track geometry and running characteristics of the track, sophisticated track recording cars, oscilograph cars and portable accelerometers are being progressively used.

6. The condition of rolling stock has been improved. Four-wheeler wagons are being replaced progressively with better bogie Air -brake stock.

7. To prevent cases of cold breakage of axle, all ROH depots have been equipped with ultrasonic testing equipment for timely detection of cases of flaws developing in the axles.

8. The training of staff has been given new thrust with better training facilities like projector, slides, study and discussions of accident cases.

9. Simulators have been installed for training of drivers. Two Simulators are working, one each at Kanpur and Tughlakabad. Two more are being imported from Australia.

10. Auxiliary Warning System for giving advance warning about singnals at danger to driver of the running train and stopping the train if the driver does not respond within the pre-determined time interval has already been commissioned on Bombay suburban sections.